Remarks

This REPLY is in response to the Office Action mailed May 13, 2009.

I.   Summary of Examiner's Rejections

In the Office Action mailed May 13, 2009, Claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-19, 20, 22-27, 28, 30-34, 35 and 37-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiegel (U.S. Patent No. 6,484,261) in view of Freeman et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0002613; hereinafter Freeman) and in further view of Kautzleben et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,493,624; hereinafter Kautzleben). Claims 4, 14, 21, 29 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiegel, Freeman, Kautzleben and in view of Zellweger (U.S. Patent No. 6,397,222).

II.   Summary of Applicant's Amendments

The present Reply amends Claims 1-10, 20 and 35-41; cancels Claims 11-19 and 28-34; and adds Claims 42-50, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1-10, 20-27 and 35-50.

III.   Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-19, 20, 22-27, 28, 30-34, 35 and 37-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiegel in view of Freeman and in further view of Kautzleben.

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

> *1.   (Currently Amended)   A system for providing an extensible administration tool, said system comprising:*
>> *a server connected to a network, the server including one or more processors;*
>> *a control tree including one or more nodes, each node corresponding to a control panel that invokes functionality of an application;*
>> *a plurality of applications provided on the server managed by the extensible administration tool, the administration tool including the control tree and the control panel, wherein the extensible administration tool is extended by adding one or more new control panels, each new control panel being added by creating a new node in the control tree;*
>> *a first graphical user interface (GUI) operable to provide hierarchical navigation of the control tree;*
>> *a second GUI operable to provide the control panel;*
>> *wherein when a new application is added to the network, the server*

9

>*receives a command to create the new node in the control tree,*
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>>*associates the new node with the new application, wherein the new node in the control tree is associated with a managed bean object, the managed bean object defining where the new node appears in the control tree of the first GUI, and*
>
>>*activates the new control panel within the second GUI upon selecting the new node in the control tree, wherein the control panel includes customizable functions operable to administer resources within the new application.*

Wiegel discloses a method of establishing a representation of an abstract network security policy. (Abstract). Disclosed therein, is a user interface window 300. (Column 14, lines 62-65). The window 300 further comprises a network viewer pane 310, a policy builder pane 320, and a policy script pane 330. (Column 15, lines 18-19). The network viewer pane 310 provides a plurality of different views of a physical computer network. (Column 15, lines 26-27). Each view is organized as a tree of related components. (Column 15, line 29). Network security policies are constructed using the policy builder pane 320. (Column 16, lines 2-3). The user constructs a security policy by arranging one or more icons 322 into a representation of the policy in the policy builder pane 320. (Column 16, lines 5-7). As the security policy is constructed, the administration component 206 generates a source script that defines the policy in a scripting language, and displays the script in the script pane 330. (Column 16, lines 9-10). After a security policy is constructed, it is represented in the policy tree 316 as a named policy. (Column 15, lines 59-60). To establish a security policy applicable to a network or one of its nodes, the user can drag network security policies and drop them onto each icon in the network tree. (Column 15, lines 38-40).

Freeman discloses a method and apparatus for communication between servers. (Abstract). As disclosed therein, an administrator runs the administration tool 140, specifying information such as the servers 180 hosting the application, the name of the executable file on each server, the required capabilities of a client for executing the application (e.g., audio, video, encryption, etc.), and a list of users that can use the application. (Paragraph [0465]). This specified information is categorized into application-specific information and common information

Kautzleben discloses a monitoring system and method which simplify the management of complex, multi-tiered networks such as those used in large enterprises. (Abstract). As disclosed therein, a cluster of application servers are communicatively coupled on a network to serve applications over the network to a plurality of clients. (Abstract). Each of the application servers includes a plurality of server nodes and at least one dispatcher node. (Abstract). Each of the server nodes and dispatchers is assigned its own dedicated management bean ("MBean") server and each of the MBean servers are associated with

a plurality of MBeans for monitoring specified system resources. (Abstract). The convenience interface 1312 may allow users to remotely access the MBean server 810 using remote administration tools. (Column 13, lines 29-31). An adapter service 1308 provides a high-level view of the MBean server 810 and all other MBean servers within the cluster (e.g., as represented by the monitor tree 800). This higher level view may be represented by a monitor tree, the root of which is an MBean that instruments the cluster. (Column 13, lines 35-39).

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite a control tree including one or more nodes, each node corresponding to a control panel that displays functionality of an application. As further recited therein, the control panel includes customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application, and the extensible administration tool is extended by adding one or more control panels, each control panel being added by adding one or more nodes to the control tree.

In the Office Action, it was asserted that Wiegel anticipates the control panel of Claim 1. However, based on the above description of Wiegel, it appears that the addition of a node adds network elements and not, e.g., a control panel control panel that invokes functionality of an application, as recited in Claim 1. Wiegel also appears to disclose that selecting a node in the tree shows related network elements, e.g., by selecting a node in the tree, the tree expands, providing an additional view of related network elements. In contrast, Claim 1 recites that the server activates the new control panel within the second GUI upon selecting the new node in the control tree.

Additionally, based on the above description of Wiegel, Wiegel appears to disclose that the functionality provided by the user interface includes constructing network policies. These polices are applied to network elements by dragging the network security policy onto the desired network element. Claim 1 instead recites that the control panel invokes functionality of an application, wherein the control panel includes customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application. Applicant respectfully submits that Wiegel does not disclose or render obvious this feature of amended Claim 1.

In the Office Action, it was asserted that Kautzleben discloses extending an interface with the association of Mbean objects that can be provided in a tree format. However, the Mbean objects disclosed in Kautzleben do not appear to extend an interface. Instead, as described above in Kautzleben, Mbeans appear to provide the ability to monitor specified resources. Thus, Mbeans arranged in a tree can be used to monitor resources.

Claim 1, however, recites that the new node is associated with the new application, wherein the new node in the control tree is associated with a managed bean object, the managed bean object defining where the new node appears in the control tree of the first GUI. Thus, while Kautzleben discloses a typical use of Mbeans (e.g., monitoring resources), arranged in a tree, Applicant submits that Kautzleben does not appear to disclose that the new node in the control tree is associated with a managed bean object,

11

the managed bean object defining where the new node appears in the control tree of the first GUI, as recited in amended Claim 1.

To further distinguish the embodiment recited therein, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that wherein when a new application is added to the network, the server receives a command to create a new node in the control tree, associates the new node with the new application, wherein the new node in the control tree is associated with a managed bean object, the managed bean object defining where the new node appears in the control tree of the first GUI, and activates the control panel within the second GUI upon selecting the new node in the control tree, wherein the control panel includes customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Wiegel, Freeman, nor Kautzleben, when considered alone or in combination, disclose or render obvious these features of Claim 1.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as amended, is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references when considered alone or in combination, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim 20 and 35

The comments provided above with respect to Claim 1 are hereby incorporated by reference. Claim 20 and Claim 35 recite limitations similar to those described above with respect to Claim 1. For similar reasons as provided above with respect to Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 20 and Claim 35 are likewise neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, when considered alone or in combination, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-10, 21-27 and 36-41

Claims 2-10, 21-27 and 36-41 have been canceled, rendering moot the rejection of these claims. Claims 2-10, 21-27 and 36-41 depend from and include all of the features of Claim 1, 20 or Claim 35. Claims 2-10, 21-27 and 36-41 are not addressed separately but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable at least as depending from an allowable independent claim, and further in view of the comments provided above. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

IV. Claims 42-50

Claims 42-50 are added by the current Reply. Applicant respectfully requests that new Claims 42-50 be included in the Application and considered therewith.

V.   <u>Conclusion</u>

     In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

     The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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